

Applicant: Antti Poikolainen et al.
Application No.: 10/525,275
Response to Office action mailed Oct. 2, 2007
Response filed October 15, 2007

Remarks

Claims 19–37 will remain pending in the application. In the Office action dated Oct. 2, 2007, claims 35 and 36 were rejected as obvious over Polifke (US 5,507,918). Claims 25, 31–34, and 37 were allowed, and claims 19–20 were indicated as allowable if rewritten or amended to overcome the section 112 ¶2 rejection.

It is noted that claim 20 was improperly identified as “currently amended” in the Response filed Aug. 14, 2007. Its proper status was “previously presented”.

Claim 19 has been amended as suggested by the examiner to place claims 19–20 in condition for allowance.

Claims 35 and 36 differ from *Polifke et al* as follows:

1. The fixed forming shoe (9B FIG.2 or 9H FIG.8) of *Polifke et al.* engages the *first forming wire*, **not** the *second forming wire* as claimed.
2. The fixed forming shoe (9B FIG.2 or 9H FIG.8) of *Polifke et al.* is described as slightly inclined but is not shown or described as curved and so does **not** have the claimed structure i.e., a shoe with “*a curved surface deck*”. The examiner provides no basis for the statement “The first dewatering zone [of FIGS. 2 or 8] has a curved forming shoe engaged with the underside of the fourdrinier wire.”(P. 3, lines 16–17 of the final Office action)
3. The forming shoes (9B FIG.2 or 9H FIG.8) of *Polifke et al* are **not** provided with *an essentially open surface* as claimed. “The surface of the shoe 9B forms a water-impermeable wire support surface 9”(col. 6, lines 42–43). “The plate 9H forms a wire support surface 9” which is of only limited water permeability so that, in its region, the removal of water in downward direction is braked but not completely prevented.”(Col. 9, lines 16–20.) See also col. 9, lines 34–37.

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4. In claim 35 “*the fourdrinier first forming wire is unsupported at the fixed forming shoe*” and in claim 36 “ *the fourdrinier first forming wire positioned opposite the second forming wire is unsupported in the area defined by the curved surface of the shoe*”, whereas the shoes 9B of FIG. 2 or 9H of FIG. 8 of *Polifke et al.* are not positioned opposite, but rather engage the first Fourdrinier wire, and the second wire of *Polifke et al.*, which is opposite the forming shoe, is supported by a roll 14.
5. The following limitation of claim 35 “*wherein the second forming wire is arranged not to contact a layer of fibrous stock on the first forming wire until after the leading edge of the fixed forming shoe*” and “*guiding the second forming wire so the second forming wire does not contact the layer of fibrous stock on the first forming wire until after the leading edge of the fixed forming shoe*” of claim 36 are only met by *Polifke et al.* when isolated claim elements are considered; but, when the claimed invention as a whole is considered (particularly that the fixed forming shoe engages *the second forming wire* as claimed), as is required by the obviousness analysis, the foregoing limitations are radically different in structure and in result because the claims as a whole place the shoe above and not below the fibrous stock on the first forming wire.

The amendments to claim 19 is one “complying with any requirement of form expressly set forth in a previous Office action” under 37CFR§1.116(b)(1) and thus should be entered.

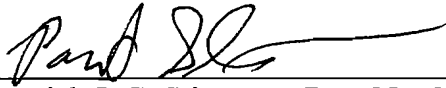
With respect to claims 35 and 36 it is clear that the claim limitations are not met by or rendered obvious by *Polifke et al.*

Applicant believes that no new matter has been added by this amendment.

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Applicant submits that the claims, as amended, are in condition for allowance.
Favorable action thereon is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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October 15, 2007 (10:32am)